



# Elmbridge Primary School Newsletter 6th September 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back after the summer break and I hope you managed to make the most of the holidays. I have been really impressed with how quickly all of our pupils have settled into school this week!

I would like to welcome any new children and new staff to our school and look forward to our new reception children starting next week. Staff will try to make themselves available at the end of each day in the playground but if you prefer a more private discussion, then please feel free to make an appointment at the office. For ease of reference, I have attached a class teacher list, the pastoral team and SEND team for this academic year in order to aid communication.

I would like to remind you that children should be in school by 8:45am when the doors will be open. It is really important that all pupils are in school by this time to avoid missing valuable learning. We have reminded our children about our 3 rules: Being **Ready, Respectful and Safe**. I am sure you can appreciate that being prompt and ready to start the school day on time is crucial!

A calendar of key events and term dates for the year will be issued next week. Also, you will soon receive a list of clubs on offer. If any parents/carers would like to help with or run a club voluntarily, please contact Mrs Holliday, Assistant Head, as soon as possible. Formal parents' evenings will be scheduled for November but there will also be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, and classroom assistants more informally at a 'tea with the team' event on **Wednesday 18th September, from 3:15 until 4:00pm** in the respective infant and junior halls (separate letter attached).

Finally, I would like to share with you our school vision so that you are aware of what we aim to achieve and why we are all so proud to be part of Elmbridge Primary School.

*'Elmbridge Primary School is one big family. We foster warm relationships, mutual respect and a love of learning that helps us to conquer an ever-changing world. Our exciting journey is one of growth, discovery and opportunity for **everyone**, opening doors to a bright future.'*

I look forward to another successful home-school partnership with you all this year.

Best wishes

Glen Tharia — Head Teacher

## Online Safety

The internet is a fantastic place for children to learn, create and have fun, but they may occasionally have to deal with a variety of sometimes challenging issues. These may include cyberbullying, the pressure to take part in sexting, encouragement to self-harm, viewing pornography, along with various others. If you have a concern or question about online safety, please contact Mrs Toppin who will be more than happy to help!

## Attendance

Our attendance this term is currently

95.6%

Remember:

**EVERY SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS!**

## Communication

Please let the office know any change to personal details/contact numbers as soon as possible. There is a form available on the website to notify us of any change of circumstances ([click here](#)) or, alternatively, collect from the office.

We try very hard to inform parents regularly about what's going on at the school and issue a newsletter to parents every two weeks. Paper letters sometimes go astray on the way home and we are increasingly aware of the environmental impact and substantial costs involved in photocopying so are encouraging parents to use our ParentMail® service. This service is very useful and enables us to notify you by email and text message in the event of an emergency school closure or cancellation of a club/event etc. If you are not signed up for ParentMail® please ask for further information from the school office.

Paper copies will still be sent home with those pupils whose parents decline to participate although we are trying to become a paperless school for environmental reasons. Copies of letters and other school information can also be found on our school [website](#).

## Reading Record

Children have brought home a 'Reading Record' this week. Please use the booklet to record reading done at home. Each time your child reads, please populate the boxes consecutively and sign that they have read (you do not need to miss out a box if they haven't read that day!). We cannot stress how important it is for children to read on a regular basis and would like your child to read at least 3 times per week. Research shows that regular reading has a direct link to educational achievement. **Please do not use it for holiday requests or reasons for absence (holidays will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances).**

**We are delighted to share the Glosfamilies Directory and 'Support for families with special educational needs SEND' (Gloucestershire's Local Offer) with you.**

Families and young people can find support and services and things to do in their local area using new digital tools and webpages. It is a one stop shop for everything families need to know about childcare, education, activities, and support in their area.

**Visit the Glosfamilies Directory now at [www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk](http://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk) and see the 'Support for families with SEND (Gloucestershire's Local offer)' and [Future Me \(Young People's Local Offer\)](#)**

We are very proud to let you know that Elmbridge Primary School has received Platinum in the School Games Mark. This is a government led awards scheme designed to reward schools for their commitment to the development of sporting provisions and competition across their school.

We will continue to evaluate and develop our PE provision to ensure that we are giving children the best opportunities possible.

PE Team



**Contact us**  
[www.elmbridgeprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.elmbridgeprimaryschool.co.uk)  
01452 523632  
Email: [admin@elmbridgeprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@elmbridgeprimary.co.uk)



## School Meals

It is important to notify the school if your child will be late for any reason and to indicate whether they require a school meal. Hot dinners are **£2.71** per day payable on-line using ParentPay. We are unable to accept cash for school dinners, school trips and music tuition unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

All payments should be made online via ParentPay or by PayPoint. Should you require an activation letter for either service could you please contact the school office. If you do not have internet access at home, we are able to provide a computer at school for this service. Any other monies such as collections for charity etc. may be donated by cash.

## Asthma/ Medical Information

If your child is currently on our asthma register, you will receive an asthma card for you to complete/ check. Existing care plans will also be sent out for those children who currently have them for you to check/amend details.

In the meantime, please ensure that you have handed in a labelled inhaler to the class teacher as well as **alert us to any new medical issues, including asthma**. If you need office staff to administer other medicines (antibiotics etc... ) within the school day, please report to the reception hub where the office staff can take details. Please do not allow your child to keep these medicines with them.

## MMR & Flu Vaccine Update/Reminder

To give your child the best protection against Measles, Mumps and Rubella a child needs two doses of the MMR vaccine. If your child has not had a second MMR as part of pre-school vaccines, I would encourage you to do this now by contacting your GP/Practice Nurse.

Like last year, the flu immunisation programme is being extended nationally to include all primary aged children from Reception to Year 6 The vaccine is given via a nasal spray (not an injection) and will be delivered by trained NHS staff who will be in school on from 7th to 9th October. Further information can be accessed from the following website

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/vaccination-schedule-age-checklist.aspx>

## A Message from the Pastoral Team

If you are in need of short term support for essential items, please contact the school office and ask for Di Howard or Cathy Richardson. Your request will be triaged by the Pastoral Team and we will let you know the outcome for temporary help, for example we have provided weekly food hampers. If longer term support is required, we will be able to signpost you to other local services.

## Water Bottles & Coats

Just a quick reminder that children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle into school labelled with their name. Inexpensive plastic ones with a sports cap are preferred rather than high value 'Air Up' bottles. They are able to keep their water bottle in class to use to stay hydrated. We do have cold water dispensers throughout the school for children to fill up their bottles but please bring full bottles to school.

Please also remember to provide a warm/waterproof coat for your child when the weather starts to get colder.



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## Drop-off and pick-up times

A polite reminder to motorists to **NOT** use the space by the Sisson Road gate as a turning circle at drop-off and pick-up times. This is an **extremely** busy entrance/exit to the school, making turning and reversing in this area potentially dangerous.

Please park at a safe, practical location further away from the school gates so that our entrances remain clear and safe for pedestrians.

If your child is travelling to and from school by scooter or bike, they **must** dismount at the school gates and walk their bikes/scooters to the bike racks in order to avoid injuring themselves or somebody else.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

## A message from the PTFA

A warm welcome back to all hope your all excited for the new year ahead! Here at PTFA headquarters we have been busy bees thinking how we can raise even more funds and give our children even more!

With this in mind please can you all sign up to ASDA Rewards so we can get a percentage of all shops -see our facebook page!

## Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th September	Tea with the Team (Year 1-6 meeting new teachers) Infant and Junior Hall 3:15pm—4:00pm
Monday 23rd September	School Council Elections
Thursday 26th September	Year 6 IOW Parent's Information Meeting - Junior Hall 5pm (letter to follow)
Thursday 26th September	Reception Parent's Information Evening (Phonics) - Junior Hall 5pm
Monday 30th September—Friday 4th October	Black History Awareness Week (as part of Black History Awareness Month)
Monday 3rd October—Friday 11th October	Mental Health Awareness Week
Monday 7th—Wednesday 9th October	Flu Vaccinations Reception - Year 6
Monday 7th October	Year 1 Trip to local church (letter to follow)
Wednesday 9th October	Colorfoto Individual School Photos
Thursday 10th October	'Hello Yellow' Day (Mental Health Awareness)
Friday 18th October	'Show Racism the Red Card' event
Friday 25th October	End of Term 1
Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November	School Holiday
Monday 4th November	INSET DAY—no pupils



Contact us

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